

115 - Ban on muslim women marrying kafir (unbeliever)

the question

Can a non-muslim man marry a muslim woman?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

It is absolutely not permissible under any circumstances in Islamic law (shari'a) of Allah, the most esteemed and exalted, for a non-Muslim to marry a Muslim woman, as per what He has said regarding the marriage of a kafir (unbeliever) to a Muslim woman and vice versa: (interpretation of the meaning).

They are not lawful (wives) for the unbelievers, nor are the unbelievers lawful (husbands) for them... (Al-Mumtahina:10)

And Allah the most esteemed and exalted has also said (interpretation of the meaning):

Nor marry (your girls) to unbelievers until they believe... (Al-Baqara:221)

i.e., it is not ever permissible for someone to marry his Muslim daughter or sister or any Muslim woman for whom he is a guardian to a kafir.

Islam must be exalted and cannot be subjugated, so how could a Muslim woman be put under the care of a kafir man, when the man is normally naturally in a stronger position? In such a situation he could cause her to corrupt the practice of her religion or force her into subdual by causing her to live a life of oppression with him. He could also prevent her from practicing some of her religious rites. These are among the reasons for the aforementioned ban expressed in the

Islam Question & Answer

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previous ayaat. wallahu a'lam (and Allah is the most knowledgable).